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TO: U.S. Patent & Trademark Office
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FROM: Edward A. Kmetz (Reg. No. 42,746)

RE: U.S. Application No. 09/851,560
Attn: Examiner D. Champagne
Group Art Unit 3622
Atty. Docket No. 03500.015511

FAX NO.: (703) 872-9306

DATE: March 2, 2005

NO. OF PAGES: 3
(including cover page)

TIME: 1:26 p

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MESSAGE

Transmitted herewith is a Response To Restriction Requirement in
response to the Office Action dated February 2, 2005.I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted
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(Name of Attorney for Applicant)



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March 2, 2005

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MAR 02 2005

03500.015511.

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
SHINJI OKAZAWA)	Examiner: D. Champagne
Application No.: 09/851,560)	Group Art Unit: 3622
Filed: May 10, 2001)	
For: SERVER APPARATUS, DATA)	
PROCESSING APPARATUS,)	
CONSUMABLE MANAGEMENT)	
METHOD, AND MEMORY)	
MEDIUM AND PROGRAM)	
THEREFOR)	March 2, 2005

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated February 2, 2005,
Applicant hereby provisionally elects to prosecute the Group II claims, namely Claims 27
to 36. The Restriction Requirement is, however, traversed.

Traversal is on the ground that there would not be undue burden in
examining both groups of claims in a single application. In particular, MPEP § 808 makes
it clear that in order to require restriction between independent or distinct inventions,
reasons for insisting upon a restriction requirement, such as undue burden, must also be
shown. In this regard, various claims within both Groups I and II are not so distinct as to

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Edward A. Kmetz (Reg. No.: 42,746)
(Name of Attorney for Applicant)

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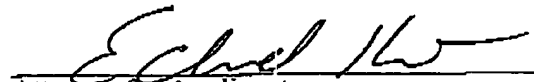
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require examination in different applications. For example, the subject matter of Claim 1, although phrased slightly differently, is very similar to the subject matter of Claim 29. Thus, it is believed that there would not be an undue burden on the Examiner to examine all of the claims of Groups I and II in a single application since it is believed that a search of art relevant to one group would necessarily encompass the other.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and withdrawal of the restriction requirement are respectfully requested, and an action on the merits for all pending claims is respectfully solicited.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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